

TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION AND DISSEMINATION BY A MASTER FARMER

Shri Prakash Basappa Saunsi, aged 46 years is a resident of Harti village in Gadag taluka. He is the convener of Laxmi Venkash Farmers club sponsored by Karnataka Vikas Grameen Bank, Harti. During 2010, he was selected by KVK as the Master Farmer and was trained for eight days in integrated agriculture viz., ICM practices in groundnut, rabijowar, vermicomposting, seed production and Horticulture crops. He showed lot of interest in key technology of seed production of groundnut, rabijowar, banana plantation and vermin composting. Immediately after the training programme, he took soil and water testing of his five acre farm and planned for banana plantation, seed production of TAG-24 variety of groundnut and CSV-22 variety of rabi jowar under the guidance of KVK experts. He also started vermicompost production. KVK facilitated him to get groundnut seed production programme of University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad. During rabi summer of 2010-11, Mr Prakash got 25 quintals of groundnut seeds and 15 quintals of rabi jowar seeds. He kept the seeds for the use of his fellow farmers of his club for the next season. During 2011-12 season, farmers of his club purchased seeds of groundnut and rabijowar and adopted the ICM practices as suggested by the Master Farmer. Mr. Prakash has become a mini extension worker for his club members as well as the other farmers. He has not only become knowledge bank but also provides improved seeds and earthworm culture to the farmers. He has been in continuous touch with KVK experts and take suggestions and disseminate to the other farmers. He has become a “model farmer” for his Farmer Club member as well as other farmers of Harti village.